



ILLINOIS HOMELAND SECURITY UPDATE

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GOVERNOR

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- On Thursday, January 24, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) conducted a tabletop exercise for Directors of State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) agencies. The exercise scenario was written around the threat of bioterrorism and the probable response sequence among state agencies.
- To assist local governments in making the most efficient use of Department of Justice grant money, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) requested that Central Management Services (CMS) determine whether any potential equipment purchases were available on current state master contracts. A review of the listing of equipment provided by IEMA found the following possible matches to state contracts:

Automatic External Defibrillators
Contract #: 4008501
Contract Period: 04/01/01 to 03/31/02

Hand Tools
Contract #: 4008668
Contract Period: 04/01/01 to 03/31/02

Video Equipment (cameras/camcorders, etc.)
Contract #'s: 4008595-4008600
Contract Period: 03/01/01 to 02/28/02

Lap-Top Computers
Contract #: 4009547
Contract Period: 10/05/01 to 03/15/02

Respirators and Accessories
Contract #: 4008486
Contract Period: 02/01/01 to 01/31/02

To take advantage of the contracts, local governments must be a member of the Joint Purchasing Program. Local governments

may view these and other state contracts through the Illinois Procurement Bulletin at <http://www.purchase.state.il.us>.

- CMS is establishing a database of contacts, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses of key facility personnel at all state-owned or leased facilities. A fax was sent to all known facility contacts throughout the state asking that a response be sent via e-mail verifying the correct information. Once finalized, the list will be sent to IEMA and the Office of Homeland Security. The database will provide a means to broadcast urgent messages via e-mail and/or fax to all state-owned or leased facilities.
- The 5th Civil Support Team (CST) was selected to support the 2002 Winter Olympics in Utah. The Adjutant General has accepted the mission for the CST. Mission dates are February 5-23, 2002. The mission requires a portion of the Civil Support Team, not the entire unit.
- Representatives from American Red Cross (ARC) key regional chapters, key staff, and each of the five Regional Blood Centers that serve Illinois and the metropolitan areas surrounding Illinois have scheduled a series of meetings to focus on key planning issues regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction/Terrorism (WMD/T). Discussions will include when donations of blood should no longer be accepted in an area where there has been a report that a biological agent has been released. Planning issues are also focusing on how best to provide mass care services to those in quarantine areas and who are dealing with the needs of individuals following mass decontamination.
- The ARC has developed several new tabletop scenarios for local chapters to use which focus on the initial response requirements following a WMD/T event with international implications.
- Department of Agriculture (DOA) staff met with representatives from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and IEMA on January 17, 2002, to review the previous Foreign Animal Disease exercise conducted late last year. Topics of discussions included: additional measures which can be taken to make a response more efficient and effective; the enhancement of the DOA's Foreign Animal Disease response plan; animal carcasses disposal, including burial options, available equipment, transportation

issues, and incineration of the animals due to possible terrorist/natural introduction of animal diseases into the food chain. The Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety (IDNS) has agreed to assist the DOA in developing appropriate decontamination resources for use in addressing a foreign animal disease outbreak.

- The Governor's Office has concurred with the IDNS's position that stockpiling potassium iodide (KI) tablets for distribution to the general public affords no added measure of public safety under the Illinois Plan for Radiological Accidents. The state's position and concerns relative to the stockpiling initiative will be transmitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Federal Emergency Management Agency by the end of January.
- The IDNS continues to work with nuclear facility operators in Illinois on the development of emergency plan enhancement and security improvements designed to address potential terrorist threats. The Department's efforts are aimed at ensuring that changes to procedures dictated by new federal guidelines are consistent with state response plans.
- Training for local first responder agencies and medical service providers to deal with the consequences of a radiological incident continues to be a top priority for the Department of Nuclear Safety. At least seven classes will be conducted in various locations around the state over the next three weeks. Basic radiation instruction for these groups continues to be scheduled and conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the IDNS.
- The Illinois Department of Transportation's Division of Aeronautics Aviation Safety Bureau sponsored an IFR/VFR pilot safety seminar January 18-19, 2002, in Romeoville, Illinois. Flight restrictions and security were discussed with the more than 300 pilots from around the state who were in attendance.
- As of January 22, the Illinois Department of Public Health (DPH), Division of Laboratories, has received 1,583 samples for anthrax testing. All have been processed and are negative for anthrax.
- On January 14-15, senior staff of the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) participated in a strategic planning session to

review internal bioterrorism preparedness activities conducted to date and to identify future planning needs of the public health community. At the meeting, senior staff developed a conceptual model for the identification, notification, and response to bioterrorism. Additionally, senior IDPH staff developed a priority plan for anticipated Federal bioterrorism funding that will be made available through the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

- On January 16, IDPH staff were invited by the Department of Justice to participate in a working group to develop a model plan for public health management of catastrophic disasters. A working draft of the management plan has been developed based on the incident command system used by emergency management. The final plan will provide state and local public health officials with an incident management system which integrates with emergency operation centers.
- On January 17, the IDPH's Director convened a meeting of the Local Agency Rapid Implementation and Action Team (LARIAT) to discuss the status of various public health emergency response plans and potential funding initiatives for the anticipated Federal bioterrorism grant. The LARIAT is comprised of one or more major local/county health department for each IDPH region of the state that would incorporate significant population centers, hospitals, emergency medical personnel, airports, government offices, availability of telecommunications capability, etc. The mission of the LARIAT is to promote local agency involvement, communication, and coordination of bioterrorism program implementation efforts.
- On January 19, the Illinois Mobile Emergency Response Team (IMERT) and department staff presented a four-hour overview on weapons of mass destruction for physicians, nurses, and emergency medical technicians in Rockford. The training is sponsored by the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council and the Illinois Hospital Healthsystems Association. Over 60 medical providers attended the session.
- On January 23, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of Inspector General, conducted a short-term management and program evaluation of the IDPH's capacity to detect and respond to a bioterrorism event. The evaluation criteria used for the review was developed by a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention working group charged with producing a list of core capacities for bioterrorism response. Illinois is one of 12 states selected to participate in the program

evaluation.

- The U.S. government is seeking information on five individuals depicted on a videotape delivering what appeared to be "martyrdom messages from suicide terrorists". The videotapes were recovered from the rubble of the home of Mohammed Atef, Osama bin Laden's military chief. Analysis of the audio suggests the men may be trained and prepared to commit future suicide terrorist acts. The names of the individuals are: Abd Al-Rahim, Khalid Ibn Muhammad Al-Juhani, Ramzi Binalshibh, Muhammad Sa'id Ali Hasan, and one individual who has not been identified. The FBI's website (www.fbi.gov) contains the photographs and names of these persons. If you have any information regarding these individuals, contact the local FBI office through local law enforcement. Source: FBI
- The U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Intelligence and Security advised that information has been developed which indicates Al-Qa'ida members may be using municipal and state websites in the U.S. to obtain information on local energy infrastructures, water reservoirs, dams, highly-enriched uranium storage sites, nuclear and gas facilities, and emergency fire and rescue response procedures. Information about supervisory control and data acquisition systems is also believed to have been sought by the Al-Qa'ida operatives. The FBI has reportedly received indications from around the nation of unexplained surveillances being conducted at infrastructure-related sites since September 11.
- Credible information exists that various U.S interests could still be the target of additional attacks, including the potential for an attack being mounted against utility infrastructure sites. Law enforcement officers are reminded to be especially alert during patrols around these areas and to maintain their already heightened sense of security at all times. Officers may wish to work with local officials to review the security implications of infrastructure content posted on websites and to urge the removal of any information from public access which could be potentially misused. Information about suspicious accesses to websites providing information on local infrastructures should be relayed to the FBI through local law enforcement. Source: U.S. Coast Guard
- The National Infrastructure Protection Center (NIPC) issued an advisory on January 17, 2002, which cautions municipalities to review the content of their websites to protect against the inadvertent disclosure of critical infrastructure information. The NIPC has

received reports that infrastructure-related data is being accessed through the Internet from sites around the world. While the significance of these website “hits” is still being evaluated, they clearly illustrate a potential vulnerability associated with the public release of this type of information. The NIPC is encouraging Internet content providers to review the data they make available online and to develop mechanisms for risk management and crisis response that pertain to the malicious use of open source information. The NIPC’s web site (www.nipc.gov) contains more information about the advisory as well as an earlier advisory entitled “Terrorists and the Internet: Publicly Available Data Should be Carefully Reviewed.”

- The following is the third in a series of practical tips offered by the U. S. State Department on how private citizens can contribute to the fight against terrorism by using their observation skills. This installment focuses on landlords and motel/hotel employees:

Terrorists often seek short-term accommodations and leave unexpectedly. They frequently pay their rent with cash, even for extended stays. These persons rarely lodge alone; they often share rooms with others in their party. They are known to avoid contact with outsiders and prefer to keep landlords and housekeepers from inspecting/cleaning their rooms. Terrorists often keep irregular hours and use rented lodging as meeting space, prompting frequent visits by unidentified persons.

While each of these characteristics may be easily explained and do not singularly point to terrorist involvement, cumulatively they may indicate suspicious activity. Citizens are urged to contact law enforcement authorities to report any unusual activities associated with rental properties or motel/hotel patrons.